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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6635**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1224

**NOTE PREPARED:** Dec 26, 2008

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Drinking Water Task Force.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Stemler

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** ☒ **GENERAL**  
**DEDICATED**  
**FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill creates a ten-member drinking water task force to study and make recommendations concerning drinking water availability as an economic and environmental necessity. The bill provides that appointments to the task force are made by the director of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and requires DNR to staff the task force. The bill requires certain state agencies to designate a representative to advise the task force. It permits the director of DNR to invite representatives of other state and federal agencies to advise the task force. It requires the task force to make an annual report of its activities to the Water Resources Study Committee and the Legislative Council.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2009.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** The task force consists of ten individuals appointed by the DNR director. The director must serve on and is chair of the task force. The DNR must provide staff support for the task force. The task force must provide an annual report of activities and recommendations to the Water Resources Study Committee and the Legislative Council.

Each of the following state agencies must designate a representative to advise the task force:

- (1) The DNR.
- (2) The Department of Environmental Management (IDEM).
- (3) the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).
- (4) the Indiana State Department of Agriculture (IDOA).
- (5) the State Department of Health (ISDH).

The director may invite representatives of other state agencies to advise the task force.

The initial term of a member of the task force begins January 1, 2010.

Participating state agencies should be able to cover any additional administrative expenses associated with attending task force meetings given their existing levels of resources. The DNR will incur additional administrative expenses because it must provide staff for the task force. However, it is presumed that the DNR will be able to cover expenses associated with the task force given its existing level of resources. The DNR reverted about \$3 M in General Fund appropriations in FY 2008.

The bill does not specify reimbursement for per diem or traveling expenses.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** The DNR director may appoint members who represent municipalities. Participating municipalities could experience an increase in administrative expenses associated with travel and attending task force meetings. However, it is presumed that municipalities will be able to cover any additional expenses given existing levels of resources.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** DNR, IDEM, DHS, IDOA, ISDH, Legislative Council, and others.

**Local Agencies Affected:** Municipalities.

**Information Sources:**

**Fiscal Analyst:** Bernadette Bartlett, 317-232-9586.